

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
117TH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

BILL SUMMARIES
JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

AUGUST 1995

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**ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION BEFORE
THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEES**

AUGUST 1995

This document is a compilation of the bill summaries prepared by this office for the Joint Standing Committees of the Maine Legislature. The volume is organized alphabetically by committee; within each committee, the summaries are arranged by LD number. A subject index is provided at the beginning of each committee's summaries. The publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, is helpful in determining to which committee any particular bill was referred.

In this document, the committee report or reports, the prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor in each house if one has been designated are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed, by paper number, together with the sponsor for floor amendments. Final action on each bill is listed to the right of the title. Various categories of final action are abbreviated as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <i>CARRIED OVER</i> | <i>Bill carried over to Second Session</i> |
| <i>CON RES XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses</i> |
| <i>CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE</i> | <i>Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died</i> |
| <i>DIED BETWEEN BODIES</i> | <i>House & Senate disagree; bill died</i> |
| <i>DIED ON ADJOURNMENT</i> | <i>Action incomplete when session ended; bill died</i> |
| <i>EMERGENCY</i> | <i>Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days</i> |
| <i>FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT</i> | <i>Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote</i> |
| <i>FAILED ENACTMENT</i> | <i>Bill failed to get majority vote</i> |
| <i>FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT</i> | <i>Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote</i> |
| <i>INDEF PP</i> | <i>Bill Indefinitely Postponed</i> |
| <i>ONTP</i> | <i>Ought Not to Pass report accepted</i> |
| <i>P&S XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law</i> |
| <i>PUBLIC XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Public Law</i> |
| <i>RESOLVE XXX</i> | <i>Chapter # of enacted Resolve</i> |
| <i>UNSIGNED</i> | <i>Not signed by Governor within 10 days</i> |
| <i>VETO SUSTAINED</i> | <i>Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto</i> |

These summaries were prepared by the analyst or analysts assigned to the committee. If more detailed information is needed on a bill, contact the committee analyst.

5581LHS

the commission, including review of the type and amount of financial aid available to Maine students and the relationship between State Government and Maine's private institutions of higher education. The amendment also adds an appropriation section and fiscal note to the resolve. The provisions of this bill and H-390 have been enacted in the supplemental budget bill (LD 958).

LD 500 **An Act to Connect Libraries and Communities Electronically** PUBLIC 475

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| McCORMICK O'DEA | | |

SUMMARY

This bill authorizes an online system by which citizens may easily locate library information and determine its availability across the State, as well as gain access to global information resources through high-speed information networks.

LD 505 **An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Committee to Study the Operations of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf** CARRIED OVER

| SPONSOR(S) | COMMITTEE REPORT | AMENDMENTS ADOPTED |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|

SUMMARY

This is the bill submitted by the Committee to Study the Operations of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf, created pursuant to Public Law 1993, chapter 508. This bill does the following.

1. It repeals Private and Special Law 1897, chapter 446 that established the governing body of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.
2. It eliminates the Policy Review Board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf.
3. It establishes a new governing body, an independent school board appointed by the Governor, that is responsible for hiring a superintendent, developing a budget and overseeing Governor Baxter School for the Deaf operations.
4. It defines the roles of the new superintendent, which include hiring staff, helping develop the budget and administering the school.
5. It clarifies that, upon enactment, the Commissioner of Education's collection of fees for rental use of the school's facilities be credited to a special account to support facilities and activities of the current Governor Baxter School. This provision is repealed July 1, 1996.
6. It defines the process by which the school board shall submit its budget proposal to the Department of Education for inclusion in the department's budget.
7. It provides transitional language that allows the school board, staff and new Governor Baxter School operations to begin July 1, 1996.